

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A series of value documents having at least two value documents wherein at least one value document is an upgrade of the other value documents, each of the value documents comprising:

a value document substrate and at least two different feature substances for checking the value documents of the series,

wherein the first feature substance is incorporated into the volume of the value document substrate ~~of the value documents~~, and the second feature substance is provided on a surface of the value ~~documents~~ document substrate in the form of a coding,

wherein the upgrade of the value documents of the series in addition to or instead of the first feature substance comprises a third feature substance,

wherein the upgrade of the value documents is over originally-issued documents of value having the first feature substance and lacking the third feature substance.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein the first feature substance is distributed substantially uniformly within the volume of the value document substrate.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein the third feature substance different from the first feature substance is incorporated into the volume of ~~the substrate of~~ the value document substrate of the upgraded value documents.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 3, wherein the third feature substance is distributed substantially uniformly within the volume of the value document substrate of the upgraded value documents.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first or third feature substance is formed by at least one of a luminescent substance and a mixture of luminescent substances.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein the second feature substance is formed by a luminescent substance or a mixture of luminescent substances.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the feature substances is formed on the basis of a host lattice doped with rare earth elements.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein a fourth feature substance is applied to the at least two value documents ~~document~~, which is different from the second feature substance.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 8, wherein the fourth feature substance is formed by a feature substance absorbent in the infrared spectral range.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 9, wherein the fourth feature substance is substantially colorless or has only weak inherent color in the visible spectral range.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 8, wherein the fourth feature substance is formed by a substance selected from the group consisting of a magnetic substance, an electroconductive substance and a substance with an optically variable effect.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 8, wherein the fourth feature substance is printed on the at least two value documents ~~document~~ in the form of a coding.

Claim 13. (Cancelled)

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one coding is a bar code.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one coding represents information about the value document on which the at least one coding is provided, the information being present in one of encrypted and unencrypted form.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein the value document substrate comprises a printed or unprinted cotton fiber paper.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein the value document substrate comprises a plastic film that is one of coated, printed and unprinted.

Claim 18. (Cancelled)

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein the value document substrate is paper having the form of a moist paper web during its production, and the second feature substance is applied to the moist paper web, in particular sprayed on, in the form of the coding during papermaking.

Claims 20-31. (Cancelled)

Claim 32. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 8, wherein the fourth feature substance is printed on the at least two value documents ~~document~~.

Claim 33. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 9, wherein the infrared spectral range is selected from the group consisting of above about 1.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ; and from about 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 2.2  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 34. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 10, wherein the fourth feature substance does not have significant absorption even in the near infrared up to a wavelength of about 0.8  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 35. (Currently Amended) The series of value documents ~~document~~ according to claim 1, wherein said at least one coding extends over a substantially total surface of the at least two value documents ~~document~~.

Claim 36. (Cancelled)

Claim 37. (Cancelled)